However, the migration was not due to threat from terrorists groups in Kashmir but it was reportedly due to deteriorating law and order situation arising out of the agitation on the issue of transfer of land to Shri Amarnath Shrine Board. There was some crowding at Jammu Railway Station due to this sudden flow of labourers from Kashmir valley. Sufficient/Adequate arrangements were made by Railway Protection Force/Government Railway Police and Commercial Staff of Railway at Jammu Tawi Railway Station to cope up with this situation.

(b) No, Sir. No such facility of free transportation has been provided by the Railway Administration.

Passenger facility at newly constructed platforms at New Delhi Station

144. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that four platform Nos. 6/7 and 10/11 have been newly constructed at New Delhi Station and a number of mail and express trains have already been started therefrom;

(b) whether it is also a fact that no passenger facility like catering stall, bookstall as well as fruit stalls have been provided thereon uptill now; and

(c) if so, what are the detailed reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. Platform no. 10/11 has been constructed and commissioned at New Delhi Station with effect from 13.09.2008. Platform no. 6/7 is still under construction and is likely to be commissioned shortly. At presen, 8 Mail/Express trains and 16 Electrical Multiple Unit trains (EMU trains) are being handled to platform no. 10/11.

(b) Two automatic vending machines dispensing kiosks have already been made operational at platform no. 10/11. Further, two milk stalls have been awarded on the newly constructed platform out of which one milk stall is under commissioning Opening of one bookstall is also under process.

(c) Does not arise.

Issuance of excess tickets

145. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the High Court of Delhi has questioned the practice of the Indian Railways with regard to issuance of tickets in excess of the carrying capacity of a train; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Hon'ble HIgh Court of Delhi while dismissing an appeal filed by Northern Railway against the

judgment passed by Railway Claims Tribunal, Delhi, *inter-alia* mad the following observation regarding issuance of tickets in excess of carrying capacity of train:—

"Railway Authorities have no business to issue tickets in excess of the carrying capacity of a train. Each and every person to whom a ticket is issued would be entitled to believe that the Railway authorities has assured him or her of a safe journey by having a berth inside a bogey of the train."

This was by way of countering the argument of the learned counsel appearing on behalf of Northern Railway in respect of overcrowding of train.

Renewal of bookstall contracts

146. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of bookstalls allotted at various stations of Indian Railways to unemployed graduates category were not being renewed; and

(b) if so, what are the detailed reasons for not renewing their bookstall contracts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As the Bookshall Policy, 2004 is subjudice before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, status-quo is being maintained in regard to renewal of all the existing Bookstall Licenses including bookstalls maintained by unemployed graduates.

Railway Projects in Tamil Nadu

147. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the various Projects in progress and the Projects approved but yet to take off and the Projects under consideration in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether it is a fact that several Projects conceived and considered long back, is yet to see the light of the day; and

(c) whether such schemes would be given priority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Following railway projects failling fully/party in the State of Tamil Nadu are in progress:—

New Line

1. Karur-Salem (85 Kms)
2. Bangalore-Satyamangalam (260 kms)
3. Tindivanam-Gingee-Tiruvannamalai (70 kms)
4. Tindivanam-Nagari (179.20 kms)
5. Attipattu-Puttur (88.33 kms)
6. Erode-Palani (91.05 kms)
7. Chennai-Cuddalore *via* Mahabalipuram (179.28 kms)